

W. M. R.
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NEWS SERVICE

BALTIMORE CITY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

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FOR RELEASE Immediately

SWANN PARK AREA RULED SAFE

Based on soil samples and blood analyses of residents nearby, no evidence of a public health hazard from Kepone has been found in the Swann Park area, Dr. John B. De Hoff, Commissioner of Health of Baltimore City revealed today.

To be certain no health hazard from Kepone existed in the Swann Park area, the Baltimore City Health Department submitted to Maryland State Laboratories 19 blood samples from nearby residents and baseball coaches who had spent time in the park. No detectable levels of Kepone were found in the blood samples. In addition, nine soil samples were taken in various spots inside the park and two at 50 feet outside the fence. Only trace amounts of Kepone were found in these samples, which would be unlikely to cause any health problem.

Although complete resodding of the park will not be necessary, there will still be some delay on opening the area for public use. The State Kepone Task Force, accepted a proposal made by the Kepone Soils Subcommittee that a 100 foot wide strip of Swann Park along the Allied Chemical property should be resodded purely as a precautionary measure. The strip will be resodded at the expense of the Allied Chemical Company, after the existing ground cover is plowed underground and disked.

27 April 1976

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